

SOME FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON THE VEGETATION OF LORD HOWE ISLAND.

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(Plates xxxii.-xxxiii.)

I offer a few brief notes on some Lord Howe Island plants to which I have given attention since the publication of my former paper (P.L.S.N.S.W. 1898, p. 112), together with a few additional bibliographical notes of some interest to the botanist. May I remind my readers, in passing, that there is, in the Santa Cruz Group, a second Lord Howe Island (see Proc. R.G.S. xlii. 220).

JASMINEÆ.

NOTELÆA QUADRISTAMINEA, *Hemsl.*—"Blue Plum." In my former paper (p. 130) I gave an account of the Blue Plum, and figured the fruits; I supposed it had not been recorded as having been found on the island. I have since received a complete series of botanical specimens, and find that the Blue Plum is referable to *Notelæa quadristaminea*, and a description of the fruit will be found in Mueller's *Fragm.* viii. 42, as *Chionanthus*. An amended description is given at x. 89, as *Mayepea*. I cannot find that this plant has anywhere been referred to by Mueller or others as "Blue Plum."

Through Mr. J. G. Luehmann's kindness I have received specimens of leaves of (1) ? *Endiandra* sp., Russell River, Queensland (Sayer); (2) large coriaceous ovate-lanceolate leaves, 8 inches long by 3 inches wide, New South Wales (Camara). Both are accompanied by fruits of *Notelæa quadristaminea*. They are, in my opinion, incorrectly matched, but they afford clues as to the occurrence of this species on the mainland. Up to the present I have not received these characteristic fruits from an Australian locality for certain.

ORCHIDEÆ.

DENDROBIUM GRACILICAULE, F.v.M., var. HOWEANUM, var. nov.

I brought some plants of the Lord Howe Island *D. gracilicaule*, and have watched their growth. The Lord Howe Island plant is stouter than the normal species; the pseudo-bulb is swollen at the place of attachment to the rhizome to a much greater extent than I have observed it in the normal species.

The inflorescence is more erect, and the individual flowers are larger than those of *D. gracilicaule*. The blotches of purple seen on *D. gracilicaule* appear to be entirely absent, the whole flower (with the exception of the labellum) being of a pale cream colour, lighter than that of *gracilicaule*.

The labellum is marked with purplish lines the whole length from the base to the point; in *gracilicaule* the marking only extends half-way from the base. As a florist's flower it is of superior merit to *D. gracilicaule*. I propose the name *Howeanum* for this variety.

PALMÆ.

HEDYSCEPE CANTERBURYANA, F.v.M.—I am now in a position to offer an illustration of the inflorescence of this palm. It has not been previously figured, and Plates xxxii.-xxxiii. are from photographs taken by Mr. Wm. Forsyth in the Sydney Botanic Garden at the end of February, 1899. This is the first occasion in which this palm has flowered in cultivation, I believe, and it has arrived at an opportune time, as a large number of specimens of the inflorescence collected and attempted to be preserved for me on the island have arrived in Sydney in a bad state.

From the flowers depicted in the photograph the following description was drawn up:—

Flowers bisexual, sessile in pairs or rarely single on the branches of the panicle. Outer perianth-segments consisting of three short acuminate segments, the inner ones more than twice as long, ovate-acute, both of a pale yellow colour. Stamens 10-12, slightly exceeding the perianth, with versatile anthers. Style rather shorter than the stamens, with a small stigma (not trifid). Compare B Fl. vii. 138; also my former paper, p. 139.

LYCOPODIACEÆ.

LYCOPODIUM VARIUM, *R.Br.*—See Hemsley's list, p. 260 (*op. cit.*); also *B.Fl.* vii. p. 674. It would be desirable to enquire whether *L. varium* has really come from Lord Howe Island, or whether a mainland plant has not been substituted through inadvertence.

L. nutans, Brackr., from Lord Howe Island, is in the herbarium of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney.

Following are the bibliographical notes referred to :—

Baker, J. G. "Ferns of Lord Howe Island." *Gardeners Chronicle*, 24th February, 1872, p. 253.

"I cannot, from the dry fronds, separate one from the well-known *Alsophila excelsa* of Norfolk Island." He adds that this is not a final judgment. The other is *Hemitelia Moorei*, Baker, n.sp. These are the two tree-ferns referred to in Dr. G. Bennett's letter in the *Gard. Chron.* of 27th January, 1872. He describes another new fern under the name of *Deparia nephrodioides*. (The latter species was subsequently figured in Hooker's *Icones Plantarum*, t. 1608.)

Baker, J. G. "New Ferns from Lord Howe Island." *Journ. Bot.* xi. 16 (1873).

Two ferns collected by the Eclipse Expedition of 1871, viz. :—*Todea* (*Leptopteris*) *Moorei* and *Asplenium* (*Darea*) *pteridoides*. The former species was in 1887 figured in Hooker's *Icones Plantarum*, t. 1697, and the latter at t. 1649.

Baker, J. G. "Tree-fern from Lord Howe Island." *Journ. Bot.* xii. 279 (1874).

"The fine tree-fern described by Baron von Mueller in the part of his *Fragmenta* just received (viii. p. 176) under the name of *Hemitelia Macarthuri* is identical with the *Cyathea Moorei* of the yet unpublished 2nd Ed. of Hooker and Baker's *Syn. Filicum*, p. 453."

Bennett, G. *Gardeners' Chronicle*, 27th January, 1872,

Dr. Bennett writes that Mr. W. Carron went in H.M.S. "Rosario" to Lord Howe Island. "My object is to direct your

attention to the discovery of two remarkable tree-ferns of the genus *Alsophila* and supposed to be new." Sketches are given of "Branched *Alsophila*" and "*Alsophila* sp."

Iris Robinsoniana, F.v.M.—*Gardeners' Chronicle*, 23rd March, 1872, p. 393, with two figures, gives a full account of this interesting plant, now of course referred to *Moraa*.

McFarland, A. Mutiny in the "Bounty," and Story of the Pitcairn Islanders (Sydney, 1884).

At pp. 126, 127 are notes in regard to Pitcairn Islanders who died (in the early thirties) at "Lord Howe" Island. The notes are not botanical, but are interesting as referring to the early history of Lord Howe Island, concerning which we have but little information.

Moore, C. "Vegetation of Lord Howe's Island." *Journ. Bot.* vii. 299 (1869). (Reprinted from *Gard. Chron.*, 1869, p. 968). Also, "Sketch of the Botany of Lord Howe Island." *Trans. Bot. Soc. Edin.* x. 365. Covering much the same ground as the preceding paper.

Shortland, Lieut., and Watts, Lieut., in "The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay, &c. (1789)."

There is a brief note concerning Lord Howe Island at p. 94; at pp. 180, *et seq.*, there is an excellent map and chart of the island, also a view of "Ball Pyramid." Shortland's only allusion to the vegetation is "but it abounds with cabbage-palms, mangrove and manchineal trees, even up to the summit of the mountains. No vegetables were to be seen." At pp. 223, *et seq.*, Lieut. Watts gives an account of the island, and says:—"This island is well covered with wood, the chief of which is the large and dwarf mangrove, the bamboo and the cabbage-tree. The different vegetables met with were scurvy-grass, wild celery, spinach, endive and samphire." These brief notes were more or less adopted by other navigators prior to say 1860, who gave an account of the products of the island.